

Minutes of the **July 15, 2008**, regular meeting
of the **Owosso Historical Commission**
held at the Gould House, 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Piper Brewer, City Treasurer Ron Tobey, and members JoEllen Hartley, Gary Martenis, Charles Wascher and Dick Waters.

Members absent: Josh Cannon, Scott Newman, Brent Smith and Gary Wilson
Guest present: John Archer

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Brewer.

Motion to accept and place on file minutes of June 17, 2008 was made by Martenis, supported by Hartley and carried.

Motion by Wascher to accept the June 2008 Treasurer's report. Support was given by Martenis and motion carried.

City Building Official, John Archer, presented drawings of the proposed Gould House garage and discussed the specifications. Members affirmed that windows would be reused from the old structure and that a wooden entry door would be acquired for the building. It is the desire of the group to have a knife made to mill siding to the contour of the original. It is the preference of the group to have board sheeting installed for both sidewalls and roof. Archer stressed that the potential bidder must be a state licensed contractor carrying liability, worker's compensation and builders risk insurance policies to city specifications. The projected time frame will be to have the bid solicitation mailed on July 18 with August 5 as the bid due date. A special meeting of the Commission will be called August 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Gould House to review and recommend a bid to city council for the August 18 agenda.

Archer also confirmed his intent to replace the wood shake roof on the Curwood Cabin.

In Wilson's absence, there was no Curwood Castle brochure report or action.

Member Hartley reported the lack of available homes will prevent a Home Tour this year. Members were encouraged to continue work so that a tour in 2009 will be a reality.

Other potential fundraiser ideas were solicited. It was reported that a Car Museum tour would not be possible. Dinner Theatre, staffing a fundraising event for a share of the proceeds, and a celebration in Curwood Castle Park following the completion of the "Wall of History" were suggested as ideas. The Wall of History celebration could involve the Arts Council, Paymaster Building, Curwood Cabin and the Castle and provide opportunities to raise funds. It was also suggested that advertisement of the endowment fund might encourage the level of the endowment and the potential for future income.

Members were receptive to allowing use of the Gould House as an auction item for the United Way.

Members approved purchase of another set of thirty paperback Curwood novels to provide as premiums for castle donations. Member Martenis recommended that a set of three could be obtained for a gift of \$20, while individual volumes would be available for \$7.00.

It was noted that the Commission has a member vacancy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Tobey, Secretary/ Treasurer